

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-47 are currently pending in the subject application. By the instant amendment, claims 26-47 are cancelled, and claims 10, 11, 18 and 19 are withdrawn. Claim 4 has been amended to depend from claim 12 and claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 14. Claim 1 is the sole pending independent claim. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-10, 12-17 and 20-25 are present to the Examiner for prosecution on the merits.

A. Restriction Requirement

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner made a formal restriction requirement against the claims, as the Examiner considers the application to contain two separate and distinct inventions, directed to:

GROUP I: Claims 1-25, drawn to a semiconductor device, and

GROUP II: Claims 26-47, drawn to a process of making a semiconductor device.

Applicants hereby elect Group I.

B. Election Requirement

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner has made an election requirement to the following species and sub-species:

Species IA – a ferroelectric capacitor having a dielectric of first and second sequentially stacked ferroelectric films, to which claims 12-19 are drawn. If Species IA is elected, then election between the following sub-species must further be made:

Sub-species IA1 – wherein the films are formed of different materials, to which claims 16 and 17 are drawn; and

Sub-species IA2 – wherein the films are formed of the same material, but having a different composition ratio, to which claims 18 and 19 are drawn; and

Species IB – a ferroelectric capacitor having a dielectric of first through third sequentially stacked ferroelectric films, to which claims 4-11 are drawn. If Species IB is elected, then election between the following sub-species must further be made:

Sub-species IB1 – wherein the films are formed of different materials, to which claims 8 and 9 are drawn; and

Sub-species IB2 – wherein the films are formed of the same material, but having a different composition ratio, to which claims 10 and 11 are drawn.

Applicants hereby elect Sub-species IB1. As noted by the Examiner, claims 1-3 and 20-25 are generic to both Species IA and IB. As further clarified by the present amendment, Species IA is generic to Species IB. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12-15 are generic to both Species IA and IB, and claims 16 and 17 are generic to Sub-species IA1 and IB1. In the event a generic claim is found to be allowable, it is respectfully requested that all claims depending therefrom be rejoined.

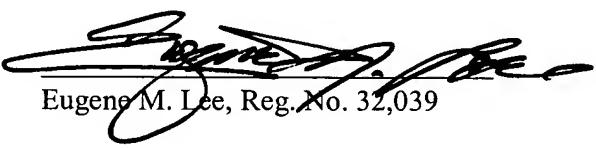
C. Conclusion

Thus, Sub-species 1B1, Group 1 has been elected. If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 15, 2005

  
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